

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/469,561

Examiner

Richard Woo

Applicant(s)

PAGEL

Art Unit

3629

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed 07-08-2003 and the telephone interview on 10-01-2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-19,21-28,30-34 and 36-46.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 22 December 1999 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.
5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 - (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed _____, which has been approved by the Examiner.
 - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet.

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 4 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. <u>11</u> . |
| 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449), Paper No. _____. | 6 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

JOHN G. WEISS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1) An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. R. Ross Viguet (Reg. No. 42,203) on October 1, 2003.

2) The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 32 and 33 have been amended as follows:

32. (Amended) The method of claim 31 wherein said dialog box interacts with a user to provide at least one of the following:

return address and logo;

address verification/prompt for insufficient information;

review scanned data;

hints for scanning data stream;

additional cover page information or label/envelope customization;

delivery (mail service, fax, e-mail, etc.); and

options (postage amount, paper weight, weight of inserts, additional mail services).

Art Unit: 3629

33. (Twice Amended) A computer program product for use in association with a data stream being directed to a general purpose printer, said data stream adapted to enable said printer to print information in accordance with said data stream, said computer program product comprising:

an abstracting program operable for reviewing said data stream to obtain therefrom information for controlling printing operations ancillary to said printing operation; and

a controller working in cooperation with said abstracting program and with said obtained information, said controller controlling [for enabling at least one said ancillary printing operations, wherein said at least one ancillary operation comprises the] printing of a postage indicia on material separate from material on which said printing is occurring.

The above changes to the claims have been made to distinguish the Applicant's invention over prior arts and to correct the informalities so as to place the instant application in condition for allowance.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

2) The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The instant invention is deemed to be directed to an unobvious improvement over the inventions patented in Axelrod et al. (US 4,862,386).

Axelrod et al. discloses a printer driver comprising:

Art Unit: 3629

data input modules (12, 50, 80, 90 and 100);
a printing module (200);
a computer (12) being communicated with the modules;
a postage meter (450) applying postage corresponding to the weight of a given letter received from the weighing module (400); and
the printing module printing all information including the postage indicia under control of the computer.

Axelrod et al. discloses a method comprising the steps of:
sending a data stream to a printing module (200);
maintaining in a secure memory an amount available for controlling a generation of a postage indicia (see Fig. 2d); and
adding or subtracting the amount represented by the postage amount to or from the postage available or postage used (by using a computer (120)).

Axelrod et al. further discloses a computer program product comprising:
a program operable for receiving data from input modules (12, 50, 80, 90 and 100); and
a controller (within the computer 120) in conjunction with the program for controlling for printing all information including the postage indicia.

However, Axelrod et al. does not specifically disclose the printer driver as set forth in Claim 1, having:

means for abstracting at least a portion of a data stream (as the scanned data device, 21, in Fig. 2 in the instant application);

means for using at least some of the abstracted data for printing of a postage indicia; and

means for creating data, from the abstracted data, for controlling the printing of the postage indicia.

Axelrod et al. does not expressly disclose the invention including the method as set forth in Claim 23, having the steps of:

reviewing the data stream to create a separate data stream for controlling additional functions with respect to the printing of the documents; and calculating under joint control of the secure memory and the separate data stream an amount of postage to be applied to a particular document to be printed.

Furthermore, Axelrod et al. fails to disclose the program product as set forth in Claim 33, having:

the abstracting program operable for reviewing said data stream to obtain therefrom information for controlling printing operations ancillary to said printing operation; and

a controller working in cooperation with said abstracting program and with said obtained information, said controller controlling printing of a postage indicia on material separate from material on which said printing is occurring.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3) The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

"Oracle: JetForm announces new "JetForm Output Pak for Oracle Applications" is cited to show the invention including data-only output means that allows customer to use a single data stream to generate multiple documents. This supports multiple languages, customers or forms.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Richard Woo whose telephone number is 703-308-7830. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 AM -5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Weiss can be reached on 703-308-2702. The fax phone numbers for

Art Unit: 3629

the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9306 for regular communications and After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0861.



Richard Woo
Patent Examiner
GAU 3629
October 1, 2003

JOHN G. WEISS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600